

2-17-1863

Letter from Thomas S. Armstrong to Francis P. Porter

Thomas S. Armstrong

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Winchester Frederick Co. Va.

February 17 1863

Dear Friend Frank

Gones of the 7th inst.
was received the 13th making the trip in
6 days I was truly glad to hear from you
I am glad to hear you are well and in such
such an "awful good humor" I am glad
to hear you found one of your schoolmates
when you was 9 I aint that a long time
ago? about how many years ago?

You got the W.P.'s Potigraph Did you how does
he look? Yesterday was the day that
makes just six months that I have been
in the 122nd O.V. Infantry. I heard from the
25 Regt & that Bob Hanson had the
Compton's chills & was very sick. Poor
Bob. I wish I was there to help him
For he noble fellow dies for me what no
other man could or would do. I hope he
will recover. I am glad you are

trying to live a christian life. That
is the true source of comfort in this
life. I should like to stop over and
see the "School Mann" in her peregrina-
tions in the School Room. I guess
Col. M. D. Craggett does not get to be
Brigadier General. Well he is a fine
man Energetic and Brave.

All you care for in reference to that
Soldier Boy is that he stays a good
Boy. Does it ever make your heart
fail you when you look over your
School room & wonder whether any
thing will mar your happiness & disturb
your mind & cause you to have trouble in
school? I know I used to be worried
when I had a bad Boy or gal that
I apprehended trouble from.

We are still lying at this place &
we have some tall times. We are
Drilling our Company on Skirmish
& Bayonet exercises.

Have you got any Valentines yet?
I sent one I presume you have
heard of the Market House affair
at Danvers. Capt. Gary's wife
was killed & he went down here to
attend the funeral a sad affair
"In the midst of life we are in death"
The other day I washed my clothes
& darned & socks aint I some?
Geste Co I with the 2 officers of course
went out foraging about 6 miles from
camp S. W. we came to a hay stack Capt.
Gary said: "Et. Armstrong, you take 14
to the right & went up into the field
& loaded 3 wagons, learn having
come back to us the rest went on
Mr. Miles. Stine & Tims rode on the
loads as they built them the owner
came along just while we were putting on
the last load & said: "will you not
leave me half" & then passed on

up the side of the Mountains. We
(Applepie Mt.) took the hay &
let him go to grass. The rest of us
walked & O such roads as we had
until we got to the pike We thought
Surely the Boys would fall off as the
wagons bounced & floundered from
side to side. The stones & gutters
were thick We looked back & saw
father Deceat & 2 other men looking
at the ruin we had made in his
hay Speculations We came east
until we struck the Strasburg pike
we saw some "stone walls" & some
Boughs cut off by bullets for near
here is the place Gen Shields &
Stone wall Jackson fought March
23/1862. Near here is where Banks
& Jackson fought May 25/1863
I am well & heartily send my respects
to Geo. & all my friends. Well I
must close I send you a power
of Respects Well I must close
as my paper is giving out
Write to me soon. You must not
forget me. The news from home
is that they are well at last acts.
My time is principally occupied
with Tactics &c

Send me your photograph as I
enclose one to you

J S Armstrong

From Richmond
Va.

From Richmond

A Richmond
Va.



Miss Frank P. Porter
Clinton

Dewitt Co }

Illinois



February 17, 1863

Addressed to Miss Frank P. Porter

Clinton, DeWitt County, Illinois

Winchester Frederick Co. Va.

February 17 1863

Dear Friend Frank

Yours of the 7th inst was received the 13th making the trip in 6 days. I was truly glad to hear from you. I am glad to hear that you are well now and in such an "awful good humor." I am glad to hear you found one of your schoolmates when you was 9. O ain't that a long time ago? About how many years ago?

You got GWP's photograph, did you. How does he look? Yesterday was the day that makes just six months that I have been in the 122 O.V. Infantry. I heard from the 98 Regt that Bob Hanson had the congestive chills and was very sick. Poor Bob. I wish I was there to help him. For the noble fellow did for me what no other man could or would do. I hope he will recover.

I am glad you are trying to live a Christian life. That is the true source of comfort in this life. I should like to step over and see the school marm in her peregrinations in the School Room. I guess Co. M.D. Leggett did not get to be Brigadier General. Well he is a fine man, energetic and brave. All you care for in reference to this soldier boy is that he stays a good boy. Does it ever make your heart fail you when you look over your school room & wonder whether anything will mar your happiness & disturb your mind & cause you to have trouble in school. I know I used to be worried when I had a bad boy or gal that I apprehended trouble from.

We are still lying at this place & we have some tall times. We are drilling our company on skirmish & bayonet exercises.

Have you got any Valentine's yet? I sent one. I presume you have heard of the Market House affair at Zanesville. Capn Gary's wife was killed & he went from here to attend the funeral, a sad affair. "In the midst of life we are in death."

The other day I washed my clothes & darned 8 socks. Ain't I some? Yesterday, Co I with the 3 officers of course went out foraging about 6 miles from camp S.W. We came to a haystack. Capn Gary said: "Lt. Armstrong, you take 14 men & go with the 2 wagons." We turned to the right & went up into the field & loaded 3 wagons, 1 team having come back to us, the rest went on. Mr. Miles, Stine & Timms rode on the loads. As they built them, the owner came along, just as we were putting on the last load & said "will you not leave me half" & then passed on up the side of the mountain (Applepie Mt). We took the hay and let him go to grass. The rest of us walked & O such roads as we had until we got to the pike. We thought surely the boys would fall off as the wagons bounced & floundered from side to side. The stones & gutters were tick, We looked back & saw father Secesh & 2 other men looking at the ruin we had made in his hay speculations. We

came east until we struck the Stradsburg pike. We saw some "stone walls" & some boughs cut off by bullets for near here is the place Gen Shields & Stonewall Jackson fought March 23/1862. Near here is where Banks & Jackson fought May 25/1862.

I am well & hearty. Send my regards to Geo. & all my friends. Well I must close. I send you a power of respect. Well I must close as my paper is giving out. Write to me soon. You must not forget me. The news from home is that they are well at last acct. My time is principally occupied with tactics etc.

Send me your photograph as I enclose one to you.

T S Armstrong